



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Bernd-Georg Pietras

Serial No.: 09/762,699

Confirmation No.: 8491

Filed: May 10, 2001

For: Methods And Apparatus For  
Connecting Tubulars Using A  
Top Drive

MAIL STOP RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Essama Omgba

Customer No.: 36,735

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
37 CFR 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on	
8 March 2004	
William B. Patterson	<i>William B. Patterson</i>
Typed Name	Signature

**SECOND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 8, 2003**

In response to the Final Office Action dated October 8, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response extended two-months set to expire on March 8, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/A0029/WBP, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6.